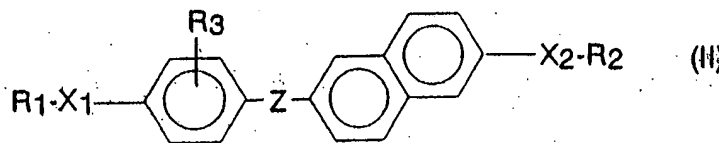


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. to 3. (Canceled)

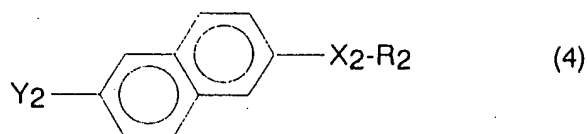
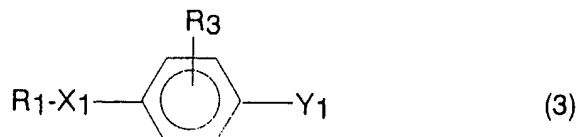
4. (Currently Amended) A process for producing the a liquid crystalline compound according to claim 2, represented by the following general formula (II):



wherein R₁ and R₂ each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X₁ or X₂; R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X₁ represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X₂ represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group comprising the step of reacting a compound represented by the following

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general formula (3) with a compound represented by the following general formula (4):

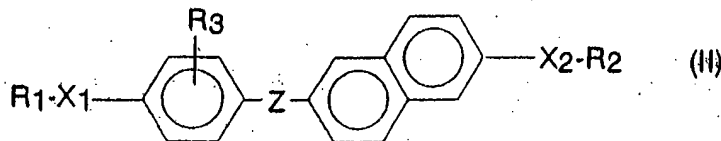


wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , X_1 , and X_2 are as defined above; and Y_1 and Y_2 are respectively groups which are reacted with each other to form a $-\text{COO}-$, $-\text{OCO}-$, $-\text{N}=\text{N}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{N}-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{S}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, or $-\text{C}=\text{C}-$ group.

5. to 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An image display device comprising ~~the compound according to claim 2~~ a liquid

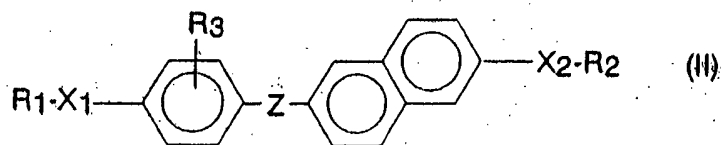
crystalline compound represented by the following general formula (II):



wherein R₁ and R₂ each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X₁ or X₂; R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X₁ represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X₂ represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

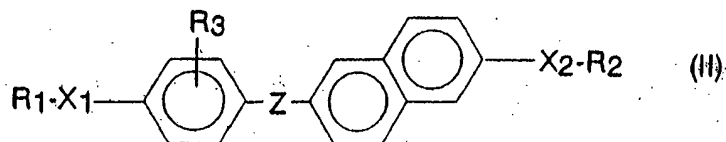
12. (Currently Amended) An electroluminescence device comprising ~~the compound according to claim 2~~ a liquid

crystalline compound represented by the following general formula (II):



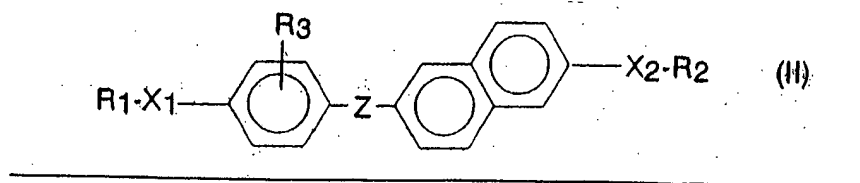
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

13. (Currently Amended) A photoconductor comprising ~~the compound according to claim 2~~ a liquid crystalline compound represented by the following general formula (II):



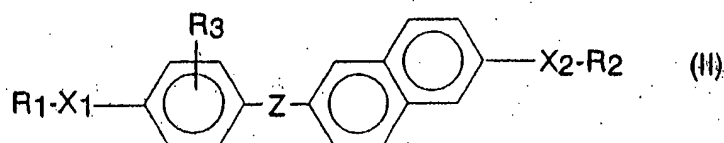
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

14. (Currently Amended) A space light modulating device comprising ~~the compound according to claim 2~~ a liquid crystalline compound represented by the following general formula (II):



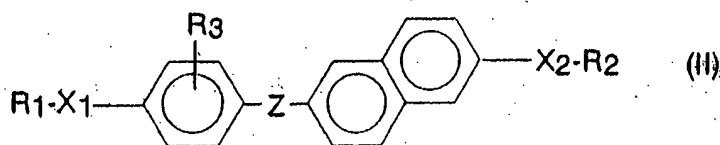
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

15. (Currently Amended) A thin film transistor comprising ~~the compound according to claim 2~~ a liquid crystalline compound represented by the following general formula (II):



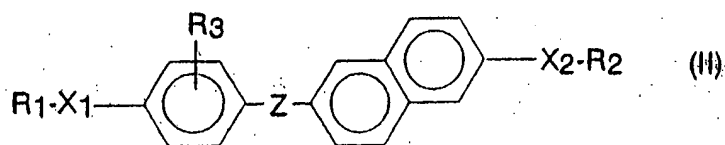
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

16. (Currently Amended) A sensor comprising the compound according to claim 2 a liquid crystalline compound represented by the following general formula (II):



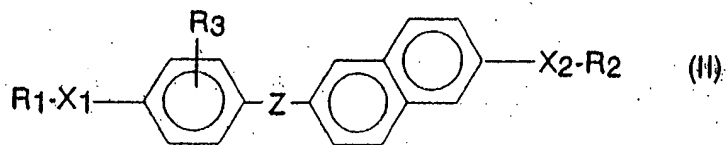
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

17. (Currently Amended) An image display device comprising ~~the compound according to claim 5~~ a liquid crystalline compound having charge transport capability and represented by the following general formula (II):



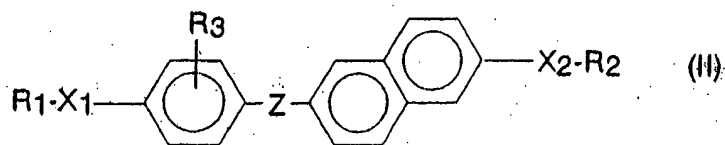
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

18. (Currently Amended) An electroluminescence device comprising ~~the compound according to claim 5~~ a liquid crystalline compound having charge transport capability and represented by the following general formula (II):



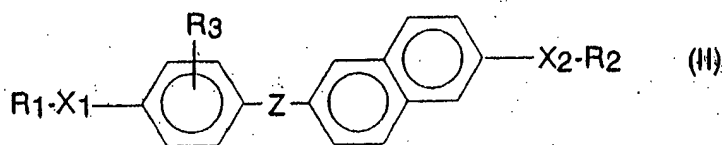
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

19. (Currently Amended) A photoconductor comprising the compound according to claim 5 a liquid crystalline compound having charge transport capability and represented by the following general formula (II):



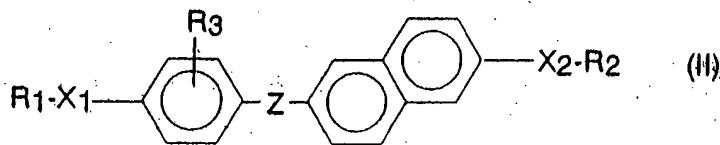
wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

20. (Currently Amended) A space light modulating device comprising ~~the compound according to claim 5~~ a liquid crystalline compound having charge transport capability and represented by the following general formula (II):



wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

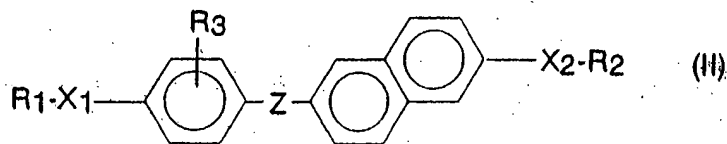
21. (Currently Amended) A thin film transistor comprising ~~the compound according to claim 5~~ a liquid crystalline compound having charge transport capability and represented by the following general formula (II):



wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.

22. (Currently Amended) A sensor comprising ~~the compound according to claim 5~~ a liquid crystalline compound having charge transport capability and represented by the following general formula (II):

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wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a straight-chain, branched or cyclic, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 22 carbon atoms and may be attached directly to the aromatic ring without through X_1 or X_2 ; R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, or a methyl group; X_1 represents a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, or -CH₂- group; X_2 represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, or a -CO-, -OCO-, -COO-, -N=CH-, -CONH-, -NH-, -NHCO-, or -CH₂-group; and Z represents a -N=N-, -CH=N-, -CH₂S-, or -CH=CH- group in a drive path.